## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Nadj et al.

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Data Structure and Method for Pipeline Heap-Sorting

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED

MAY 2 1 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

The current Preliminary Amendment is filed concurrently with the enclosed Request for Continuing Examination (RCE). A current listing of the claims as presented begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

Conclusion begins on page 5 of this paper.

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